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DAN SMOOT

CRIME AND ITS REWARDS

It took 68,887 troops (21,586 regular Army and 47,301 national guard), plus thousands of police to contain Negro rioting in more than a hundred cities through 15 states and the District of Columbia, following the death of Martin Luther King on April 4, 1968.[1]

The riot-containment tactics used (in Washington, D. C. and many other cities) were recommended by President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders (Riot Commission). Details had been worked out in secret sessions presided over by Johnson's Attorney General, Ramsey Clark, and by Cyrus Vance (Johnson's close friend and "troubleshooter," formerly deputy secretary of defense, now a private lawyer in New York City).[2]

The tactics are simple:

When a gang of Negroes starts smashing windows, looting, firebombing, assaulting and robbing whites on the streets — the police do nothing but passively watch and call for help. If Negro mobs grow and violence spreads, police pull out of the trouble zone entirely. Later, when reinforced by enough troops to overwhelm the rioters by mere weight of numbers, police move back into the area, using tear gas to disperse the mobs. They arrest persons seen in the act of committing crimes — if the arrests can be made without the use of firearms or other force that might hurt the rioters.[3]

Development and rationale of this new technique for handling Negro riots were explained by Richard H. Sanger (a foreign-service officer of the State Department for 25 years, now a government expert and consultant on riots and revolutions):

"From time immemorial, common law has set forth the theory that property should be defended by force, even if it meant extensive killing. Out of the discussions and studies made by the Government last autumn [1967], there came what is virtually a new approach — namely, a policy of restraint . . . .

"At the start this might result in sacrificing property in order to save lives. But it was felt that once the idea spread among the Negro community that the U.S. Government was more interested in saving Negro lives than in saving white property, the cooperation of broad segments of the Negro popula-

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tion could be enlisted and that property, both white and colored, would be saved in the long run . . . .

"I think once the word spreads that, 'believe it or not, whitey would sooner save colored lives than white-owned buildings,' it will have an impact. I think this has already begun."[4]

This is incitation to anarchy. When the federal government advertises that it does not want Negroes hurt or punished, no matter what they do to the property of whites, Negro depredations against whites are bound to multiply until utter lawlessness prevails.

Federal officials — participants in planning the policy of restraint, which requires police and troops to let Negro rioters burn, destroy, and steal what they please rather than hurt some of them using enough force to stop them — acknowledged that, under common law, it is still justifiable to defend property from injury by force and even to kill to forestall the commission of a serious crime; but, one official said:

"The law hasn't changed, but the way it's being enforced has changed tremendously. That old stuff about 'looters will be shot on sight' is for the history books and maybe the movies. It's for people who don't know how it is to be in a riot where, if you shoot, they shoot back, and you've got a lot of dead cops and troops along with dead citizens."[2]

Attorney General Ramsey Clark said police use of deadly force to stop arsonists and looters would "alienate the minorities and induce those who are not disposed to violence now to adopt terrorist and guerilla tactics," and "would tend to a very dangerous escalation of the problem we are so intent on resolving."[5]

This is surrender to anarchy. When authorities responsible for protecting the lives and property of citizens are *afraid* to act against lawless mobs, the mobs will eventually take over; and civilization will be dead.

Not only the police but the courts are under pressure to handle Negro rioters softly. There has been virtually no prosecution of Negroes who, in the past 12 months, have participated in looting and arson that caused hundreds of deaths, thousands of injuries, millions of dollars in property damages.

Federal poverty warriors had a hand in the Washington riots. The poverty-war agency most noticeably involved was PRIDE — created by and for white-hating Negro hoodlums, lavishly financed with tax money supplied by the federal government. The history of PRIDE is the history of Marion Barry and Rufus Catfish Mayfield.

Marion Barry was formerly district director of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee — the pro-communist organization of Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael).

In July, 1967 (while awaiting trial on a disorderly conduct charge resulting from involvement in a brawl in connection with a traffic violation), Marion Barry resigned as district director of SNCC to accept a government job — which had been created specifically for him, at his suggestion. He was hired as a $50-a-day consultant by the United Planning Organization (a District poverty-war agency financed with tax money provided by the Office of Economic Opportunity) to help run Development Youth Program (a poverty-war effort financed with tax money provided by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare). One of his closest associates — Rufus Catfish Mayfield—was hired as his assistant. Catfish Mayfield (now 22) is a black muslim who has spent some 8 years in prison for various offenses, including auto theft and grand larceny.[6]

Barry and Mayfield quickly organized a Negro group called PRIDE and obtained $300,000 from the Department of Labor to clean streets and kill rats in Negro neighborhoods. Mayfield was elected chairman of the board of directors of PRIDE.[7] Marion Barry became director of program operations.

When the April, 1968, riots occurred in Washington, Marion Barry and Catfish Mayfield had 1200 Negro youth on the PRIDE payroll, drawing tax-financed salaries ranging from $56 to $100 a week. Robert Jackson, legal coordinator of PRIDE, said that about 8 percent of the "dudes" who work for the organization were arrested during the riot.[8]

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On Monday night, April 8, Washington police stopped, for a curfew violation, a car containing 6 PRIDE workers. The car had been rented (with tax money, of course) by the PRIDE organization. In it, police found 120 capsules of heroin. On the person of William B. Sturdevant (age 34, one of the PRIDE workers) police found "implements of crime" (syringe and needle). Sturdevant was charged with violation of the Uniform Narcotics Act. The other 5 PRIDE workers were charged with violation of curfew.[9]

Catfish Mayfield, chairman of the board of PRIDE, was in the thick of the rioting and looting in Washington, but has not been charged with participation in any of the crimes.[10]

Many nations in the past — grown prosperous, fat, and apathetic; and fallen under the rule of corrupt and cowardly leaders who were afraid to fight for the maintenance of law and order — have been destroyed by barbarians, after going through shameful periods of trying to bribe the savages not to rape, pillage, and burn.

But never before in the history of the world has a nation *hired* vandals to sack and pillage; *protected* them from police while they were engaged in the activity; *excused* from prosecution those who were arrested; and *rewarded* them for their criminal behavior after each major outburst of violence — all of which the United States is doing today.

Before the April, 1968, Negro rioting in Washington had ended, the mayor of that city announced a hastily-arranged series of "Easter events" for Negroes in the District. The events included free cruises on the Potomac River (with dancing, entertainment, refreshment, and food all provided free) for some 2000 Negro teenagers; free trips and tickets to major-league baseball games for about 1000 Negro children; free movies every afternoon in 28 District recreational centers; free music, dancing, and other entertainment every afternoon and evening at 15 locations throughout the city; fashion shows; free picnics for thousands of Negro youths.[11]

It is apparent, however, that the Negroes of Washington want more than free bread and circuses. They want the city given to them, so that they can rebuild and run it as they please, with white taxpayers footing the bill.

On April 12, 1968, a group of Negro businessmen in Washington formed BEACON (Black Economic Achievement and Construction of Neighborhoods) to demand Negro control of rebuilding, and subsequent Negro ownership and management, of properties destroyed by Negro rioters. BEACON wants a program for redevelopment and rebuilding, to be placed under the control of an all-Negro organization such as BEACON.

The Negro group would cooperate with federal agencies administering such laws as the Public Works and Economic Development Act, Model Cities Act, Manpower Act, and the Housing and and Urban Development Act. The "cooperation" would consist of getting tax money from the federal agencies to implement plans prepared by the Negroes. The Negro group could veto suggestions by government consultants, but no federal agency could veto decisions made by the Negro group. The Negro group would be responsible only to the Negro community.

The federal government would confiscate and purchase land and make it available to Negro businessmen. All businesses constructed or rebuilt in the riot-devastated area would be under Negro management or ownership. Negro architects, Negro urban planners, Negro contractors and subcontractors, Negro economists, Negro insurance companies and agents, Negro real estate companies, and Negro executives and administrators would be used exclusively, if possible, in the planning and rebuilding; and Negro residents of the area would be given priority in all jobs in connection with demolition and construction.[12]

On April 15, 1968, Marion Barry — director of program operations for PRIDE — told the Federal Bar Association in Washington that Negroes will not accept "business as usual" by whites in Washington. He said white-owned businesses destroyed by Negro rioters will be destroyed

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again if whites rebuild them without giving Negroes at least 51% control. Barry said that white businessmen who want acceptance in the black community of Washington must not only give controlling interest in their businesses to Negroes, but must also give a portion of profits from such businesses to the Negro community for recreational facilities and other benefits.[8]

On April 6, 1968, it was announced that the District Council on Human Relations would name a committee to recommend guidelines for police use of firearms. Council members indicated that Washington police had been too careless with firearms, and too rough on Negro rioters — because they had accidentally killed 2 looters during the rioting.[13]

In less than a week after the April, 1968, Washington riots ended, the Washington Teachers Union, working with a committee of Southern Christian Leadership Conference (Martin Luther King's communist-infiltrated organization) had prepared a "relevant lesson plan" on the Negro riots, for distribution to all teachers in Washington public schools.[14]

The "lesson plan" equates Negro hoodlums who sacked and burned Washington with patriots of the American Revolution who staged the Boston Tea Party, and fought at Lexington Green. It lists Negro heroes whose lives and deeds children should study, including H. Rap Brown, Stokely Carmichael, Martin Luther King, Muhammed Ali, Roy Wilkins, Albert Cleage[14] (the latter, a white-hating Negro militant who was deeply involved in the Detroit riot of 1967).

Washington school children are to be taught that the real looters were not the Negroes who ransacked and burned Washington stores, but store owners who had been "overcharging" Negroes.[14]

All of this is to be done, of course, at *your* expense — since Washington schools are financed largely with money from the federal treasury.

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FOOTNOTES

(1) "Tomorrow," "Aftermath Of Riots — What Next?", *U. S. News & World Report*, Apr. 22, 1968, pp. 23-4, 27-30

(2) Article by John Fialka, *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 12, 1968, pp. A1, 6; New York Times News Service dispatch from Wash., D.C., Apr. 11, 1968

(3) "Kid Gloves vs. Law and Order," editorial in *The Daily Oklahoman*, reprinted in *The Dallas Morning News*, Apr. 14, 1968, p. A30

(4) "Insurrection: Outlook In U.S.; Interview With an Authority on Riots," *U.S. News & World Report*, Apr. 29, 1968, pp. 38-41

(5) AP dispatch from Washington, Apr. 18, 1968

(6) *Barron's*, July 31, 1967; Walter Cronkite on CBS news, Aug. 8, 1967

(7) UPI article by James Kidney from Wash., D.C., Aug. 27, 1967

(8) Article by John Fialka, *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 16, 1968, p. B4

(9) "Three Seized In Drug Cases After Curfew," *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 10, 1968

(10) *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 13, 1968, p. A20

(11) "Ten-Day Easter Events Slated for D.C. Youths," *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 13, 1968, p. A20

(12) Article by Paul Delaney and Shirley Elder *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 13, 1968, p. A20

(13) "D.C. Unit Plans Study Of Police Gun Rules," *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 16, 1968, p. B4

(14) Article by John Mathews, *The* (Wash., D.C.) *Evening Star*, Apr. 19, 1968, p. B11

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